

TRIBUTE TO THE UNI-CAPITOL
WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PRO-
GRAMME

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a unique international exchange program, one in which the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has participated since its inception 11 years ago.

The Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme (UCWIP) matches a dozen of Australia's best university students to Congressional offices for 2-month, full-time internships each January and February. The program is nonpartisan, bicameral, and focuses on connecting people for lasting education and mutual understanding. It is a true exchange that regards its participants as young professionals looking to enter the working world with a head start of sophistication, personal growth, and international sensibilities.

The Australian interns bring a hunger for knowledge and a passion to understand our national legislature from the inside out. They provide valuable perspectives on the public policy issues and challenges that they face in their own country. They leave with an unfettered knowledge of Congress and the individuals who serve the American public.

I've been a proud host of an astounding quintet of Australia's finest student interns: Narelle Hards from Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia, in 2000; Louise Squire from the University of Western Australia in Perth in 2004; Lauren Reed from Deakin University, in the Melbourne metropolitan area of Victoria, in 2005; Michael Ng from the University of Melbourne, in 2007; and this year, Clara Jordan-Baird, of the University of Melbourne.

Each has brought with them knowledge of and passion for transportation. I recall vividly, for example, how Lauren Reed briefed Committee staff about her home state of Victoria and its compelling anti-drunk driving campaign. Narelle, Louise, Lauren, Michael, and Clara have each contributed broadly and directly to United States-Australia relations thanks to their insights, observation, and helping hands as our Committee workload demanded.

I know that many offices on both sides of the aisle have enjoyed similar experiences with these young Australians. And I know that the Australians have taken home with them a deep sense of reality about the United States so often impeded by what Australians refer to as the "Tyranny of Distance," the physical geographic distance between our two great nations. Despite all of today's technological wonders—from air travel to Facebook—there is still no substitute for a handshake and warm welcome.

For this program we have to thank a long-time former congressional staffer, Eric K. Federing. Eric served as the Committee's communications director in the mid-1990s. During his personal travels to Australia, Eric discovered what he perceived to be a small, but important, gap in Australia-American relationships and he designed this program to help fill it.

Madam Speaker, we should encourage these types of international exchanges. The

more that we can arrange for the finest students and young professionals from around the world to spend some meaningful time among us, the better that we will understand them and they will understand us.

Both the U.S. and Australian governments have been supportive of UCWIP. Many other statements have appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD over the years and there have been two speeches in the Australian Parliament in recognition of the program. I have been a very proud participant and look forward to being one for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE GENERAL
OMAR NELSON BRADLEY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late General Omar Nelson Bradley, hero of World War II, America's last surviving five-star General, first Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and a proud son of Randolph County in the heart of Missouri's 9th Congressional District. It will be my honor and privilege to participate in the celebration and observance of "General Omar Bradley Day" in Moberly, Missouri on Friday, February 12, 2010, the General's birthday. An event to commemorate Moberly's favorite son will be held at the Moberly High School and a reproduction of the portrait of General Bradley, which is in the Bradley corridor at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., will be unveiled and will hang in the foyer of the Moberly High School auditorium, on the south end of the school campus.

I would like to recognize the members of the General Omar Nelson Bradley Library and Museum Committee for arranging Friday's celebration and for their tireless efforts to promote awareness of General Bradley's special connection to Moberly. The members of the committee are Chair Sam Richardson, City Councilman Dick Boots, City Manager Andy Morris, Russ Freed, Wayne Wilcox, Joe Knaebel, Howard Hils, and Mary Lee Noel.

I would also like to enter an excerpt from the following article, "General Bradley Day Here Friday" into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This item appeared in the Monday, February 8, 2010 edition of the Moberly Monitor-Index.

GENERAL BRADLEY DAY HERE FRIDAY

General of the Armies Bradley was born in rural Randolph County near Clark, on February 12, 1893. He moved to Moberly at age nine and graduated from Moberly High School in 1911. As Moberly High School's most distinguished alum, General Bradley went on to become a member of the United States Military Academy class in 1915 and was one of its most outstanding scholars, as well as a football and baseball star.

He commanded the largest American army ever assembled, during the invasion of Europe in 1944, led the Veterans Administration after World War II, was named Army chief of staff in 1948 and in 1949 was promoted by President Harry Truman to first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He served two terms as chairman of the Joint Chiefs. Bradley was the youngest and last of nine American military officers to earn the coveted fifth star.

After retirement from active duty, General Bradley was chairman and chief executive officer for the Bulova Watch Corp. Under his leadership, Bulova developed the Accutron watch, which was first developed for America's military and fledgling space program.

Bradley died in New York City on April 8, 1981. He had participated in the inauguration of his friend, President Ronald W. Reagan, in Washington in late January 1981. Among those at his state funeral at Arlington National Cemetery was longtime friend and internationally acclaimed comedian Bob Hope. An avid golfer and fan of horse racing, and lifetime fan of baseball and college football, Bradley lived his final years in special quarters built for him at Fort Bliss, near El Paso, Texas. Both the Sun Bowl at El Paso and the Independence Bowl at Shreveport honored Gen. Bradley during his lifetime and in the years since his death.

The event at Moberly High School Friday is sponsored by the General Omar Nelson Bradley Library and Museum Committee, a citizen panel organized by the Moberly City Council last year to bring recognition to the community's favorite son.

In an October 1966 letter to former Moberly Mayor Will Ben Sims, General Bradley—a man known for his humility and modesty—wrote that he accepted the fact he was Moberly's "favorite son" and that he and Mrs. Kitty Bradley viewed Moberly as their most favorite city in the whole world.

He was an honorary member of the Moberly Country Club and Moberly Rotary Club and longtime member of the Central Christian Church, where he grew up.

IN HONOR OF AGNES TEBO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, Mrs. Agnes Tebo for a lifetime of public service and civil rights activism. This coming Saturday, the Monterey County Branch of the NAACP will honor Mrs. Tebo with its President's award. I will have the great pleasure of attending this ceremony and in conveying to her the gratitude and best wishes of the House. I am particularly excited because I have been privileged for many years to count myself among her friends. Indeed, she has been a great role model and inspiration to several generations of public servants from Monterey County. And that remains true today; at 95 Agnes Tebo is truly one of our nation's great treasures.

Born October 25, 1914, in Port Arthur, Texas, Agnes Dronet grew up in a world dominated by Jim Crow's pervasive injustice. As a child, she remembers learning to live with the separate schools, restaurants, and other humiliations that so dominated the daily lives of Port Arthur's African American citizens. More ominously, Agnes can remember the climate of fear created by the Klu Klux Klan through murders, cross burnings, and other terrorist acts. She recently told a reporter that "we had to walk a straight line or we knew we'd end up dead. The people who did it would brag about it, and nobody would do anything about it. The law wasn't enforced. As a child, I just accepted it. I just thought that's how life was." But that did not mean that Agnes thought it was right. In 1937, at the age of 23, Agnes found her way to Salinas, California, after a childhood spent working to help her single mother